



A Missouri State Library news service

September 9, 2005

Newsline Extra features time-sensitive information about State Library programs and current news of interest to the Missouri library community.

Registration error affects MOSL senior services workshop

A malfunction in the online registration for "[Oh, My Aching ...What? Consumer Health Information for Older Adults](#)" may have caused some registration forms to be lost. If you registered online last week for one of the workshops and do not receive a confirmation letter from the State Library within the next few days, please contact [David Masterson](#), 800-325-0131, ext. zero, to assure your registrations has been submitted.

Registration for the Hannibal, Jefferson County, and Cape Girardeau workshops will remain open until September 16, so those interested in attending may still do. The workshops will help public library staff build and improve consumer health information services and programs for older adults and their caregivers. The workshops are free and open to Missouri public library employees. For dates, locations, and additional information, go to www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/workshop/srfriendly/2005/.

Letters About Literature entries wanted

Encourage your young patrons to write a letter to their favorite author and they could win cash prizes, Target GiftCards, or an expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C. The trip to our nation's capital is the national prize in [Letters About Literature](#), a writing contest for readers in grades 4 through 12. To enter, readers write a personal letter to an author, explaining how his or her work changed their view of the world or themselves.

Judges from [Missouri Center for the Book](#) will select top essayists in the state and honor those students at a ceremony in Jefferson City in mid-April. Entries from the first place winners in Missouri are also submitted to the national competition.

Missouri has participated in the *Letters About Literature* competition for eleven years, and almost 12,000 students have submitted entries during that time. We frequently rank in the top ten states in number of entries, and would like your help to continue this tradition.

Please consider offering copies of the entry form to your patrons, or incorporate the contest into your programming. Curriculum guides and sample letters are available by e-mailing mcb001@sos.mo.gov or lettersaboutlit@epix.net. The submission deadline for entries is December 1, 2005.

Letters About Literature is sponsored by Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, the Missouri Center for the Book, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and Target Stores. If you have any questions about the contest or would like additional details, visit the Missouri Center for the Book's Web site, <http://books.missouri.org/lal/2006/index.html> or the national *Letters About Literature* Web site, <http://loc.gov/letters>.

MASL invites public library staff to present at conference

The Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) invites public library staff members to submit proposals to present sessions at their upcoming spring conference.

“Reveal the Magic @ Your Library” is scheduled for April 23-25, 2006, at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. Organizers are interested in sessions focusing on how public librarians could or do collaborate with school librarians, and speakers will be allowed one-hour time slots. Download a workshop proposal form from www.maslonline.org/Workshop_proposal_form.pdf. Proposals are due November 30, 2005. Questions can be directed to pthomeczek@nwmustangs.org or mrstee@socket.net.

RUSA announces online reference interview course

The Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), begins its second year of offering “The Reference Interview,” an online course in fall 2005. David Tyckoson, director of Public Services at California State University, Fresno, will teach the four-week course to be held November 14, 2005 to December 16, 2005.

The course will instruct support staff, library technicians, and newly hired reference librarians on the methods of evaluating reference service, behavioral aspects of reference service, and the different types of questions you can use to help patrons identify what they need. Using images and video, the course covers everything from the approachability of the librarian to how to follow up with a patron. Scheduled chat sessions will model interviewing techniques using sample dialogues.

The registration cost is \$130 for RUSA members, \$160 for ALA members, \$190 for non-ALA members and \$100 for students and retirees. For more information, visit www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaevents/onlinereferenceinterviewcourse/refinterview.htm.

To be placed on the e-mail list to receive *Newsline Extra* or to unsubscribe, contact the Missouri State Library at 800-325-0131, ext. 8, or e-mail holly.dentner@sos.mo.gov.

Newsline Extra will be archived for six months on the State Library’s Web site at http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline_extra/.

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